

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): A delivery valve device for a refrigerant compressor comprising:

a valve plate pierced with at least one fluid delivery passage;  
at least one delivery valve closing said at least one fluid delivery passage on a downstream side in a direction of delivery of the fluid, and secured, at one of its ends, to the valve plate by first fixing means; and

at least one delivery valve stop[[;]],

wherein said at least one delivery valve is [[held]] clamped at its other end, in almost permanent sliding contact with the valve plate by a spring secured to the valve plate by second fixing means.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said spring includes an elastic leaf fixed at one end to the valve plate by said second fixing means and pressing, toward its other end, the at least one delivery valve onto the valve plate.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 13, wherein said first and second fixing means at a same time fix said at least one delivery valve stop to the valve plate so that the at least one delivery valve stop clamps the at least one delivery valve and the spring onto the valve plate at the first and second fixing means.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said first and second fixing means include rivets.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, further comprising pegs fixed into the valve plate to prevent the at least one delivery valve and said spring from rotating.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The delivery valve device [[and]] as claimed in claim 12, comprising two delivery valves closing two passages in the valve plate, wherein said spring is a single spring for the two delivery valves and said at least one delivery stop is a single stop for the two delivery valves.

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etc*  
Claim 18 (currently amended): The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 17, wherein said spring is in a shape of a U with branches that respectively press free ends of the two delivery valves against the valve plate and a central part of which is fixed to the valve plate by said second fixing means, and ~~wherein~~ said at least one delivery valve stop is in a shape of a U with branches acting as respective stops for the two delivery [[two]] valves[[,]] and ends of which are fixed to the valve plate by said first fixing means and a central part of which is fixed to the valve plate by said second fixing means.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said fixing means, [[and]] said at least one delivery valve and said spring are configured to, at a same time, prevent the at least one delivery valve and the spring from rotating.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the fixing means includes rivets collaborating with fixing orifices in said at least one delivery valve and the spring, the fixing orifices having a cross-section of a non-circular shape.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 20, wherein said shape of the cross-section of the fixing orifices is star shaped.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said at least one delivery valve has a part of reduced width in a region of lesser stress to adapt to a stiffness of said at least one delivery valve.